should be linked to the progress by the State Government in actually implementing the revival package.

- Since legislative amendments may take time, the State Governments should, in the meanwhile, enter into an appropriate MOU with the RBI, agreeing to desist from interfering directly or indirectly in the financial management of these banks.

- All cooperative banks should be brought on par with the commercial banks as far as regulatory norms are concerned.

The Governemnt in principal has accepted the recommendations of the Task Force.

Suicide by farmers

†3884. SHRIDILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1866 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th March, 2005 and state:

(a) whether the special economic help, for the people of this class, announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister in the month of June-July, 2004, is only for the farmers of Andha Pradesh or for the farmers of all the States; and

(b) if it is only for the farmers of Andhra Pradesh, the reasons for this discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LALBHURIA): (a) The Hon'ble Prime Minister visited Andhra Pradesh on 1 st July, 2004 and directed, among other things, that livelihood cover should be provided to one person from each of the suicide affected families, through collaborative action between the Government and Banks. He also announced an assistance of Rs. 50,000 from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) to the families of persons who committed suicide.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.